

Message Text

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43

ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-03

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 /113 W

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R 061345Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9082

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 3550

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, OCLR, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH OFFSHORE AREA CLAIMS

REF: (A) STATE 100649 (NOTAL) (B) ANKARA 3010

1. GUNALTAY SIBAY, CHIEF OF MARITIME AFFAIRS SECTION OF MFA'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT, HAS CONFIRMED TO US THAT TURKEY CLAIMS IN THE BLACK SEA A 12 MILE MAXIMUM VARIABLE SEA (DEPENDING ON NATIONALITY OF VESSEL) AND THAT THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF CONVENTION (PARA 1, REF A) APPLY. SIBAY COMMENTED THAT THE BLACK SEA SEABOTTOM DROPS OFF SHARPLY AND THUS THE POTENTIAL FOR ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION IS NOT GREAT. IN THIS CIRCUMSTANCES, THE ISSUE OF SUPERJACENT WATER COLUMN HAS NOT ARISEN AND TURKEY DOES NOT CLAIM THE SEA BOTTOM AT DEPTH GREATER THAN 200 METERS IN THE BLACK SEA. (TURKISH PETROLEUM ORGANIZATION - TPAO HAS CONCESSIONS IN BLACK SEA BUT SIBAY SAID ACTIVITIES OF GLOMAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHALLENGER SINCE THEY WERE OF SCIENTIFIC NATURE WOULD NOT POSE

PROBLEMS.)

2. A DIFFERENT SITUATION PREVAILS IN REGARD TO THE AEGEAN. THERE
TURKEY CLAIMS A SIX-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AND RELATES ITS SEA BOTTOM
CLAIMS, SIBAY EXPLAINED, NOT JUST TO 200 METERS AND/OR TO ECONOMIC
EXPLOITABILITY, BUT TO THE "NATURAL PROLONGATION" OR EXTENSION OF
THE ANATOLIAN LAND MASS. ACCORDING TO SIBAY, THIS SHELF EXTENDS
BEYOND THE MEDIAN POINT IN THE AEGEAN AND IN PLACES EXTENDS
ALMOST TO THE GREEK MAINLAND. (GOT HAS NOT PUBLISHED MAPS
DELINEATING ITS CLAIM AREA. THESE WILL PRESUMABLY BE REVEALED
AT SOME STAGE DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE. REF A,
PARA 2 REFERENCE TO JULY 18, 1974 OFFICIAL GAZETTE WAS A
NOTIFICATION OF NEW LEASE AREAS IN AEGEAN WHICH HAD BEEN
AWARDED TO TPAO. THESE LEASES ARE WITHIN AREA TURKEY CLAIMS AS ABOVE
ITS CONTINENTAL SHELF, BUT THERE IS NO IMPLICATION THAT THEY ARE AT
MAXIMUM LIMIT OF THE SHELF. AS IN BLACK SEA, SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES
OF GLOMAR CHALLENGER AND ITS RIGHT TO TRANSIT ARE NOT AFFECTED
BY THE TURKISH CLAIMS.)

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE A RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
ABOUT GLOMAR'S ACTIVITIES IN ISTANBUL AND BLACK SEA (REF B) IN
ORDER TO RESPOND TO LIKELY INQUIRIES ABOUT THE VISIT.
MACOMBER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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